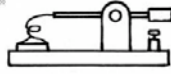


# Spark-Gap Times



Published By

The Old Old Timers Club



PAGE 1 VOL. 46 NUMBER 2 APRIL 2009 SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO  
E-MAIL [OOTC@OOTC.US](mailto:OOTC@OOTC.US) OR OOTC\_3191 Darvany Dr. Dallas TX 75220-1611

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
Chairman, Troy Wideman W6HV,  
Joe Schroeder W9JUV,  
Joseph Wehner W8KNO, Bert Wells W5JNK

-----  
Spark-Gap Times Editor-Publisher  
Bert Wells W5JNK (ootc@att.net)

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**ACTIVITIES**  
Mark Titterington W1EOF

-----  
**REGISTERED AGENT RHODE ISLAND**  
Janice Lentz K4IJK

-----  
The Board of Directors honors these Silent  
Keys for their contribution to OOTC.

-----  
**Earl E. Cline #0061 exW4PPZ**  
Treasurer 1953-58  
Secretary 1956-57  
President 1959-63

-----  
**Raymond E. Meyers #0188 exW6MLZ**  
Treasurer 1970-76  
Secretary 1970-78,  
President 1979-84,

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**Leland E. Smith #1214 exW5KL**  
President 1994-2004

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**L. F. "Ted" Heithecker #1263 exW5EJ**  
President 1987-90, Secretary 1991-93

## PAGE 3 VOI. 46 NUMBER 2 SPARK-GAP TIMES APRIL 2009

THE NOMINATION & ENDORSEMENT PERIOD FOR DIRECTORS IN DISTRICT 2, 4, 6, 8 AND 0 TO SERVE 2010 & 2011 IS OPEN. CANDIDATES MUST LIVE IN YOUR DISTRICT AND BE WILLING TO SERVE. SEND NOMINATION/ENDORSEMENT TO: SECRETARY ootc@ootc.us or 3191 Darvany Dr. Dallas TX 75220-1611. YOU MAY NOMINATE THE INCUMBENT.

### DISTRICT INCUMBENTS

2 NJ-NY.	JERRY MULBERG, W2MJP, #2995.
4 AL-FL-GA-KY-NC-SC-TN-VA.	DAVID KNIGHT, W4ZJY, #3428.
6 CA-HI.	LEE R. WICAL, KH6BZF, #4444
8 MI-OH-WV-IL-IN-WI.	JOSEPH WEHNER, W8KNO, #4030.
0 CO-IA-KS-MN-MO-NE-ND-SD.	LEO MEYERSON, W0GFQ, #0707.

### OOTC ON THE AIR MEETINGS

#### EUROPEAN CHAPTER #5 CALL DL0OTC

SSB 7:30 CE(S)T 3624 kHz, Tue, NCS DJ5ND, Willi Kreibohm.  
SSB 11:00 CE(S)T 7090 kHz, Tue, NCS DJ2XB, Guenter Pesch.  
CW 17:30 UTC 3576,5 kHz, Tue, NCS DL1MEB, Karl Maerz.  
CE(S)T = Central European (Summer) Time = UTC + 1(2).

### U. S. A.

Chapter #2 (CA): Tuesday, 1600 local 3917kHz. NCS W6HV, Troy Wideman.

AZ Chapter: Tuesday, 1600 local, 3913 kHz. NCS W7LGB, Lyle Brown.

N.East Chapter: Thursday, 1330 local, 7230 kHz. NCS K2VNM, Robert Kerns.

CH82 E. TN & SW. VA Chapter: Sun, 9:00PM E. 145.110MHz. down shift.

OOTC National Calling Frequency: Friday, 1700 UTC on 14050 kHz.

SUPPLIES AVAILABLE – Price includes postage.

OOTC BADGE - \$8.50 - \$10. or \$11. see page 47.

OOTC 4" Round Iron-on Jacket patch - \$5.00

OOTC 3" Round sticker - \$1.00

Gold 1" stamps free, YOU send S.A.S.E. 80 yr pin free courtesy W1GAY.

Replacement Lapel Pins 40(no #), 50, 60, 70, \$3.50. (first pin free when join)

Send U.S. Check, U.S. currency TO: OOTC 3191 Darvany Dr. Dallas TX 75220-1611  
(no credit cards)



**A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Truly hard to believe how the time flies! As with all things, OOTC is still changing and improving. For me, it is an honor to be a member of such a talented group! You can see proof of that in reading the wonderful stories in the Spark Gap Times. The generous contributions of remembrances, photographs, and comments by OOTC members are exceptional.

This issue is one of the best I've had the pleasure of reading. The stories make me think back to when I built my first CW/AM transmitter and recall not having much money to buy what I dreamed about using. So, the cabinet was made of a scrap plywood type board, lined with copper screen fabric, and painted with crackle paint to make it look like a metal rack mount rig. Link coupled to a Windom type single feed wire antenna. Seems like it had all of about 18 watts input to the final. My receiver was a rescued all band radio from a home radio console.

I expect you noticed a change in the 6<sup>th</sup> district director. Norwood "Pat" Patterson, W6RYX, OOTC 3867, moved from the 6<sup>th</sup> district and requested a replacement. I want to thank Pat for serving as the 6<sup>th</sup> district director and wish him well in his new Colorado QTH! Also, welcome to Lee Wical, KH6BZF, OOTC #4444, as the new 6<sup>th</sup> district director! Lee volunteered to step in and fill the vacancy.

Another phenomenon is occurring which I don't recall seeing before. The Executive Secretary has been getting quite a number of requests from college students wanting contact points of OOTC members in order that they can apply for the FAR scholarship. As you recall, OOTC was able to increase the fund to \$1000 last year. If you can, please consider donating to the scholarship fund.

Thanks to all the contributors to this issue of the Spark Gap Times!

Keep those great stories coming!

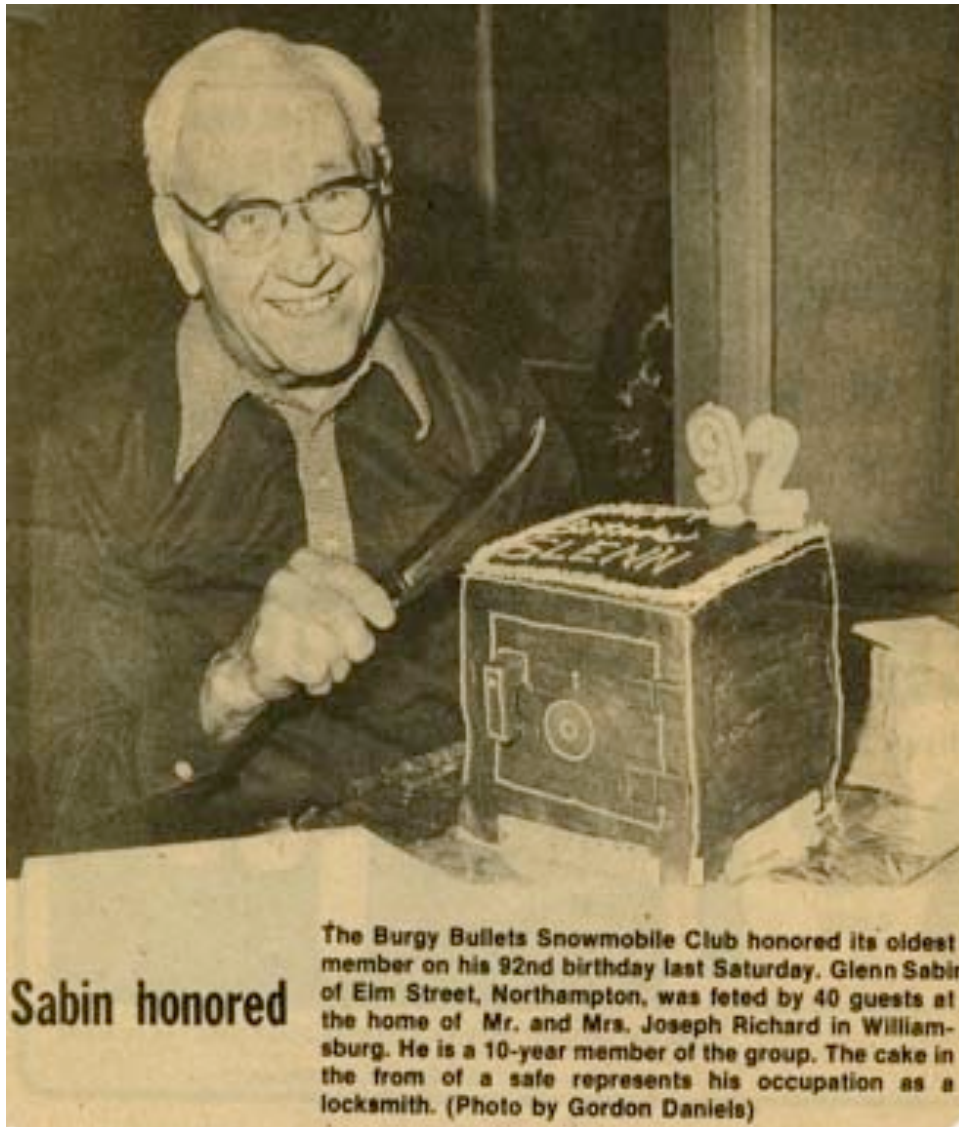
73, Troy, W6HV w6hv@verizon.net

2009 BUDGET – TREASURER JOSEPH WEHNER,  
W8KNO, #4030 jlw\_usna62@yahoo.com

	Budget 2009	Actual 2008	Budget 2008	Actual 2007
Receipts:				
Dues	4,500	5,008	4,600	3,515
Life Memberships	700	1,215	2,200	3,315
	5,200	6,223	6,800	6,830
New Member Dues	250	280	550	305
Gifts to SEAF	160	2,660	400	426
Stamp, Patches & Pins	120	160	350	383
CD Sales	0		0	10
Interest	475	694	100	393
Operating Donations	0		0	5,020
Other Income	0		0	115
	6,205	10,016	8,200	13,482
Disbursements:				
Management Fee	3,300	5,525	3,900	3,900
Office Supplies	300	103	700	532
Computer repairs & Supplies	300	859	300	1,718
Stamp, Patches & Pins	25	38	0	192
SGT Printing	2,000	1,770	2,200	1,457
SGT Postage	600	514	1,700	1,386
Telephone & E-Mail	240	215	350	391
Office Postage	400	1,542	500	271
Bank Charges & Supplies	30	81	30	0
Misc	0	221.85	0	0
	7195	10,869	9680	9847
Excess Receipts	(990)	(853)	(1,480)	3,635
Cash Balance Begining	11,140	11,993		
Excess Receipts	(990)	(853)		
Cash Balance End	10,150	11,140		
SEAF				
Contributions to 12/31/2007	20,340			
Donations Xfered in 2008	0			
Donations to FAR				
8 @ \$600 & 1 @ \$1,000	5,800			
Interest earned since 11/8/1994	6,722			
	922			
Scudder MM balance 12/31/2008	21,263			

**OOTC # 0020 GLENN C. SABIN (SK-APRIL 17 1983 at age 95)  
EX 1MS, 1ZL, 1CGS, W1CGS. 1<sup>ST</sup> TWO-WAY 1906.  
BROKE MANY DX RECORDS OF THAT TIME.**

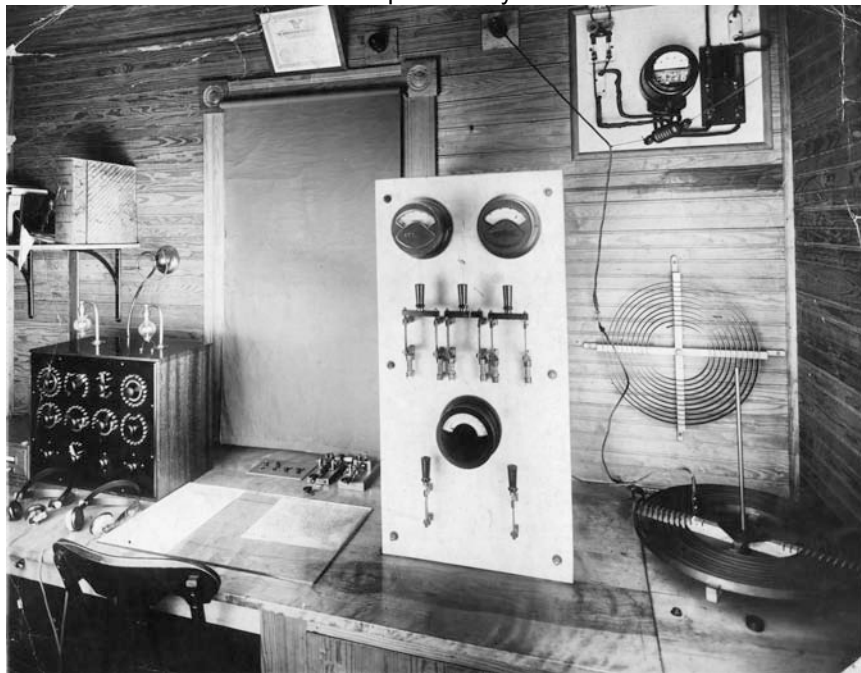
Glenn's 92<sup>nd</sup> Birthday was Saturday March 26 1980.  
Photos courtesy Great Granddaughter of Glenn Sabin,



Heather Sabin. [hsabin40@hotmail.com](mailto:hsabin40@hotmail.com)



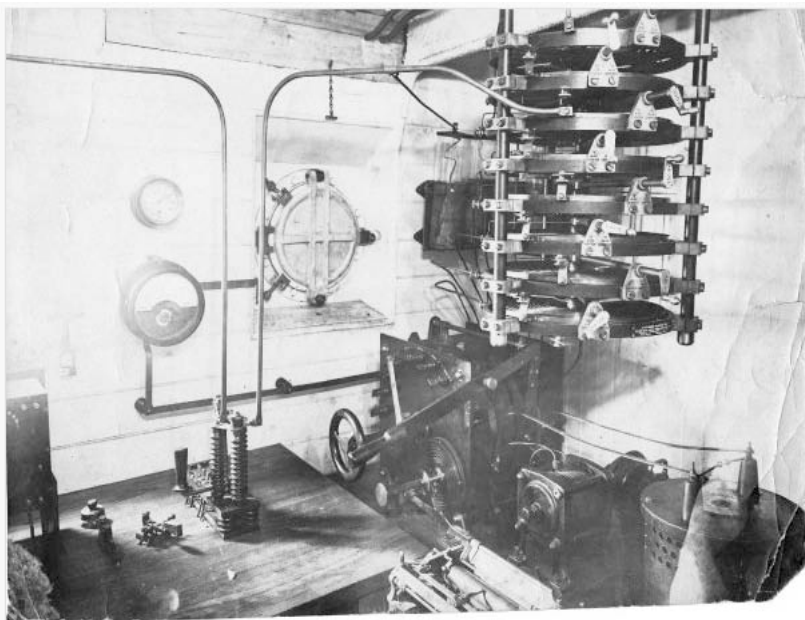
Two views of station owned and operated by Glenn Sabin and Dean Lewis





Beaufort NC Towers and Bldgs. looking east 1918.

From the album:  
"Great-Gramps Ham Radio pix"  
by Heather Sabin



USS Walke operating Room, 1917. USS Walke (DD-34) was a Paulding-class destroyer, launched in 1910 and decommissioned in 1919 after service in World War I. I'm guessing gramps took this photo while she was in Charleston, SC.

From the album:  
"Great-Gramps Ham Radio pix"  
by Heather Sabin





This photo says Arlington Station NAA., a gift to Mr. Sabin from D.E. Rivers. From what I've found online, this Naval radio station sent the first wireless telephone communication on Sept. 29, 1915 from this station in NYC to San Francisco. This breakthrough would pave the way for all Navy stations to be able to talk to ships at sea.

From the album:  
"Great-Gramps Ham Radio pix"  
by Heather Sabin



This was apparently a friend's station, Raymond Hebert, 1CHJ, Northampton, MA, in 1922.  
[hsabin40@hotmail.com](mailto:hsabin40@hotmail.com)

**LETTER FROM DONALD L. COLLINSON, K2DC, #4353**

I'm still very active on the Ham bands, mostly 20M, but I've recently discovered 160M. I'm one QSO and two cards away from Honor Roll with 8BDXCC in hand, all in just the last 8 years. For 20 years I never owned a QSL card. I put up a wire for 160M about 3 months ago and I'm already up to 78 worked and 31 confirmed. 6M may be next if and when it wakes up and 160M is closed out.

I'm also still working in Military Electronics. For the last 23 years I've worked with Radar Systems, mostly ground-based systems for long and short-range air surveillance, Air Traffic Control, Missile Defense, and Weather Systems. I started as a Microwave Antenna Engineer, and slowly worked my way through all the RF and Analog signal processing equipment in the systems. The work has spanned from HF to X Band with travel to 38 states and 8 countries on 4 continents and trips to a few radar sites in some pretty remote locations. I currently hold 3 US Patents for Radar Antenna applications with a fourth pending that will hopefully be granted in a year or so. I could retire at any time if I had something better to do and the XYL thinks I'd drive her nuts around the house all day, so I'll probably hang in there for a while.

My Ham ticket goes back to 1980. My GROL (formerly a First Phone preceded by a Third Phone) goes back to 1968 when I worked in Commercial Broadcasting for 13 years (Disc Jockey - ran away with the circus before I woke up and went back to school). And my first two-way wireless contacts were with a Restricted Permit with the Civil Air Patrol in 1963 at age 13. That, along with DXing Broadcast Band at around the same age and three years of electronics as a shop class in high school is what got me started in of all this.

---

73 All, Don, K2DC #4353 Permit with the Civil Air Patrol in 1963. [k2dc@arri.net](mailto:k2dc@arri.net)

---

**LETTER FROM AL MELCHER, W6ARM, #3365**

In the January issue there is a copy of correspondence from Don Johnson, W6AAQ that I submitted in response to a suggestion in a previous issue that members submit items that might be of interest to other members. I wanted to share some interesting information that Don had mailed to me about his career in the US Navy. I included excerpts from one of the articles that he had copied for me but the print had been reduced in size. With my eyesight having diminished in my old age, it was necessary for me to use a magnifying glass to read some of it.

Reference was made to his experience as a crew member in the first aircraft built by Lockheed for the Navy that would become known as the Constitution. I misread the name as Constellation. I should have been aware that something wasn't just right when he told of the "Two spiral staircases to the lower deck". I've been a passenger on a Constellation and know that they were not equipped with access to any lower deck.

Apparently some of the members received their issues of January SGT before Don did. Yesterday I received another letter from Don:

"Days before receiving SPARK GAP TIMES the telephone started ringing off the hook from knowledgeable Old Old Timer Aviators. I didn't know that there were so many smart ones."

"AAQ, how come you don't remember the name of the largest aircraft in the world in 1948 when you were flying President Truman and other notables around the world?" --- "huh? -- Shame"

Well, AAQ didn't understand - - later the copy of Spark-Gap Times arrived - AH! In every instance, Constellation was substituted for Constitution.

So I offer my sincere apology to Don and all of the readers of SGT. At least we know that the issues are being read, not discarded as "junk mail".

73. Al, W6ARM. almel@aol.com

---

**FROM LEE. R. WICAL, KH6BZF, #4444  
NEW DIRECTOR OF OOTC DISTRICT 6  
"This is my tome to Amateur Radio"**

While I was in Cub Scouts I used to listen to SWL broadcasts and what were these people talking in "Dits and Da's"?

Let's start In the beginning as my maternal grandfather encouraged me into electrical and radio interests, as he was an engineer for Westinghouse in their transformer division in Sharon, PA where I was born. He had me listen to his 1920's receiver. I logged KDKA in Pittsburgh, PA as my first radio station.

My father took a teaching job in Mentor, OHIO where we moved and I was always stringing copper wire from my mail order company, Allied Radio, in Chicago. During my elementary schooling I would listen to and logged WHO, WTAM, WJR, CKLW, WHAM, KOA and many others. So much for logging medium wave stations during WW2.

In 1946 during a Thanksgiving get-together in Southwestern Ohio, my cousin, Bill, W8NTZ, was then fooling with some homebrew ARC radios and without our licenses, we worked the longest DX for me at that time an Amateur in Tennessee. What a long DX contact, I thought then.

Being drafted into the US Army only several years out of high school, my knowledge of Morse Code, helped me to qualify for radio school. I even talked my way into an Army MARS station as an intern. Upon graduating, all my radio school classmates were sent to Europe but since my last name began with "W" I was sent to the Pacific Theater to join the 25th Division stationed in Korea. Commo personal did not survive long on the battlefield! But, I survived. Later, the unit was sent to Schofield Barracks, Territory of Hawai'i to become a state in 1959. Well, another MARS station loomed and I found out they were giving classes in order to pass the FCC licensing exams.

Remembering what my Father told me growing up, "One must crawl, before you walk, before you run." He also told me that, "You cannot be stupid!". So, I passed my Novice Class license. Then I followed with my General license from Engr-in-Charge, Mr Richard "Dick" Cotton,(SK) W8DX. BTW I worked him from Hawaii on AMSAT some 20-yr's later! I was going to college on the G.I. Bill in Columbus (Go Buckeyes!) and I heard of a station engineer's job with WBNS-TV and WMNI-AM radio. But, I needed to have a FCC Radiotelephony commercial license so I studied for that examination session. Well, it was up to Cleveland's Federal Building to again face "Dick" Cotton. I passed all three elements the same day and my slide rule was all wet from sweating! I received my Commercial ticket weeks later. My Advanced Class license was a precursor to my Extra Class license. The only licenses I never held were Conditional and Technician licenses!

I worked at the stations for two years before graduating from college. Armed with a BSEE I applied back to Hawai'i to the then Hawai'ian Telephone Company as an entry-level radio engineer. I worked mobile radios and many microwaves projects for many years.

However, data transmission engineering was just coming into the electronics world so I was hired by the USAF for years. Then a US Civil Service job opened with the US Army, again at Schofield Barracks, HI. In the next two years I traveled throughout Asia and Vietnam on various radio projects. A opening at the Defense Communications Agency-Pacific where I worked as a GS-13 for 36-yr's and retired thereafter in 1996. I floated a resume and AT&T picked me up and wanted me to go

to Europe as a section chief installing small earth stations in Germany and Bosnia in support of the US Army stationed there. Again, I retired from AT&T/Lucent Technologies to return home to Hawai'i. I then did some consulting work before my third retirement,

I have had many QSO with a lot of my friends and acquaintances over the years. The King of Jordan, Dick Cotton via satellite and many other who have joined the ranks of Silent Keys. I have been embraced by many clubs and organizations who would have me as a member of their organizations. Thank you.

My roots go back for thanks to my Grandfather, Scouts and my radio experiences in the Army and in Amateur Radio that has been good to me in both my professional career and my hamming. I have enjoyed the fellowship with friends, learning and traveling throughout the world.

I now am a Chief Volunteer Examiner in both Amateur and Commercial examinations. I hold my Extra Class and four Commercial FCC licenses: Radiotelephony, Radiotelegraphy and both GMDSS licenses all with RADAR endorsements.

Has it been worth it? YOU BET. 73 and ALOHA NUI LOA, Lee, KH6Bloomin' Zipper Flipper.

QSL ? FEEDBACK ?

As the new OOTC Director of 6<sup>th</sup> District, I hope that I will hear from you, the members in California and Hawaii. leewical@aol.com

-30-

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**LETTER FROM OLLI M. RISSANEN, HP1WW, #4425**

**Data entry in the 60's - OH2AM CQ WW SSB log of 1968  
40 year anniversary**

In the stone age of computing in the 60's one of the only ways to enter data into computer files was to use punched cards, terminals did not exist. To store the files magnetic tapes were used, discs did not exist. Computer programming was at its very early stage, high level programming languages did not exist. Programmers used "assembler" languages - totally dependent and related to the hardware used - and some times even machine language inserting the instructions directly to computer memory with console keyboard. OK, FORTRAN was about to come and the white paper of COBOL existed.

In 1968 I was one of the lucky guys to be both a member of OH DX Ring,

OH2AM and one of the assembler programmers of company then called "Rautatiekirjakauppa" nowadays Rautakirja

<http://www.rautakirja.fi/index.cfm?pageid=202>.

OH2AM won in 1968 CQ WW SSB contest in M/M category and the idea to produce computer based log came up. My boss, Simo Raumavirta, director of EDP (Electronic Data Processing - nowadays called MIS or something similar), was enthusiastic about the idea and permitted us to use the company's General Electric-Honeywell-Bull computer model GE-115 for the job. A punched card with a double function - data entry & QSL card was designed (SEE PG25). The ladies of data entry department ("tallentajat reikakorttiosastolla" in Finnish) were trained to enter the QSO data.

I used the GE-115 computer assembler language - very close to machine language - to program the data entry/storage to magnetic tapes, sort and print the data in order to find the dupes and to print the final log in the requested format. The programs - the assembler source code - were first written by hand on a piece of paper and then entered into punched cards.

The translator (a program which was on punched cards in machine language format) was loaded into computer memory and it was used to "translate" the assembler source code into machine code. The end result was a bunch of punched cards which was the "program" in machine code format. Debugging (testing) of the program was quite a job because one really did not want to repeat the translation phase after each error found so many of the corrections were made directly into computer memory by console keyboard using machine code. After a couple of rounds of testing one made the same corrections into "source code" which was on the punched cards, translated the program again and so the circle was going on until the correct result was achieved.

Quite a process! I believe this OH2AM application the first "logging" programs, for sure not in real time or on-line!

Early 70's Martti, OH2BH, used a similar approach with the help of Olle, OH2LP - see the enclosed ZD3X card. The SYP's, Suomen Yhdyspankki, (Now Nordea Bank) Italian made (Olivetti) manufactured data entry terminals were used for a first real-time logging! Data storage was on C-cassettes that were just coming up. In the 80's the revolution of personal computers made it possible for everyone to make their BASIC based applications for data entry, logging, QSL labels, data bases etc

TRLog <http://www.trlog.com/> and CT <http://www.k1ea.com/> were the programs of the 90's and today almost all of us use either N1MM <http://pages.cthome.net/n1mm/> or Win-Test <http://www.win-test.com/> and for sure USB port instead of serial and parallel ports. In the event of Operating Systems early 70's I lost -for my disappointment- the control of the computer and since then I have been totally confused in front of it because somebody else has decided what the computer should do for me, the utmost example being the OS's and applications by Mr. Gates. 73, Olli OH2BBM 1962 - HP1WW 2006. [hp1ww.oh0xx@gmail.com](mailto:hp1ww.oh0xx@gmail.com)

---

## **LETTER FROM C.E. "BUCK" SHELL, W4AXH, # 3190**

### **THE DAY THE FCC CAME TO VISIT**

I am now seventy-seven years old and the day that the F. C. C. knocked at my door seems like a long-long time ago. I have always had radio on my mind, that is, until I found out there were girls in this world too, then radio took a back seat for a while. I grew up in a small town in Virginia, Crewe, Virginia with a population or just over 2000 not counting the dogs and chickens that ran loose most of the time. Crewe was a Railroad Town located halfway between Norfolk, Virginia and Roanoke, Virginia. The trains were loaded with coal going east and empty hopper cars going west. My Dad was a railroad man for 50 years and one week, and he said that's enough.

As a young lad of ten years old and WWII going on, there was not much to do in the afternoon after school and I soon became good friends with the local radio repairman, who fixed most any radio of that day. Slim was his name and when he was not repairing radios, bourbon helped him find the problem so he said. Most every afternoon I was there in his shop watching him do his thing with the radios.

A couple of years went by and one day Slim had an old transmitter he was going to throw away, and to get rid of it, he ask if I wanted it. I could not get home fast enough to get my little wagon to carry that transmitter. It was all I could do to get it up a flight of stairs to my bedroom and that is when the fun started. I do not know where this transmitter was used and what it was for but I found out it produced a dead spot just out side of the broadcast band below 550kcs when I turned it on. I soon learned not to energize a switch that was labeled Hi volt because there was a tube in there that really glowed bright blue. One day when I stopped to see Slim at his shop I saw what was a microphone and I ask slim if I could borrow it. He said, "you can have it, I don't have any use for it." Then back to the house I went.



On the end of the mike cord was a little plug I later found out to be an RCA phone plug and a little hole in the transmitter that it may fit. Yep, that was it, a good fit, and I was in business. My little AC/DC radio on the table was on and when I said "HELLO" in the mike I jumped back at what came out of that little radio. My bedroom never was the same after that. Mom would never come in my bedroom again because she said she was afraid of all those wires I had in there so she just tossed my clean folded clothes on my bed and left the room.

My sister had one of those 45 rpm record players that had a RCA plug on the end of the cord like the microphone, so I said maybe that transmitter will play music, too. Well, it did not take me long to find out on the back of the transmitter was a wing nut marked ANT and I thought it was to keep any little bugs and ants out of that nice machine. With a long piece of lamp cord, I took all the twist out and joined them together and tossed that big hank of wire down to the roof of my Mom's kitchen. Out back I found a ladder my dad had used to clean out the gutters, and up on the roof I went and spread that hank of wire around. Next thing you know I was playing music and talking on the RADIO. Swapping between mike and record player plugs and talking and then plug music. I named my Radio Station WWR (world's worst radio) because all radio stations east of the Mississippi River had to start with a W and those west of the Mississippi had to start with a K. The only exception was KDKA in Pittsburgh, Pa. (that went on the air first in the USA.)

Now at 14 years old the war was over and radio was in its hay day. WWR was playing music for the girls in High School and they all loved it when a song was dedicated to them as they listened down on the low end of the broadcast band. Then the day came. I was put off the air. I had just come from the dentist office and to my surprise there were two men standing on my front porch, knocking on the door. Mom opened the door just as I was stepping on the porch. One of the men turned to me and said "ARE YOU BUCK SHELL?" "YES" I replied. With that, ID cards in little leather pouches came out of their pockets and I was shaking all over and wondering what I had done so wrong.

These two men said they were from the FCC office in Norfolk, and I said, "What is that?" They replied, "THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATION COMMISSION and we want to see your radio station." My Mom said, "You all go on up stairs, it is in his bedroom." One agent was Mr. Banks and the other Mr. Bennett (both men have passed on now, and they were just doing their job.). Still trembling, I showed them the way and the whole time I thought I would be put in jail. The Town of Crewe never had 14 year old in jail but there was always a first, I said to myself.

The two agents Banks and Bennett just shook their heads in disbelief at what they saw. One of them said "DON'T EVER TURN THIS THING ON AGAIN. This is against the law and you can be fined and put away for this." All I could say was "I did not do anything wrong" and one of them said, "YES, you did, YOU got on the air, and broadcast all up and down on the east coast on 535 kHz." The other gentleman said, "If you want to get on the air, get your HAM LICENSE!" I SAID, "WHAT IS A HAM LICENSE." That ended my radio station Worlds Worst Radio so then I started thinking about the girls.

Now it was a long time before I got back on the air. After high school I joined the U. S Navy. After ship assignment what did they do? They sent me to Class "A" Radio School, at Navy Operations Base Norfolk, Va. After finishing 18 weeks of Navy Radio School in Norfolk, VA and waiting for my ship to arrive, I put in for special liberty to go to the F.C.C. office in Norfolk to take my Amateur Radio test at the Federal Building. Being fresh out of school on the base, CW was a snap, 23 words per minute with stick and mill to graduate. Now here I am in a fresh white uniform and ready for testing. Those "Sparkies" on my left arm meant I was a radioman in Uncle Sam's Navy at age 19.

When I arrived at the office the lady behind the desk said, "May I help you?" I said, "Yes, I want to take a test for ham radio." Back then you had to sign the completed form before a notary public and when I handed the form to the gentleman in back that was administering the exams, there stood Mr. Banks, the agent I met years before. He did not recognize me so I asked him if he had ever been to Crewe VA to inspect a clandestine radio station?

A big smile came on his face and he said, "You are that kid with the piece of junk for a station "WORLDS WORST RADIO." We both had a good laugh. I took Novice test and thought that was it. Then he handed me the General class written test and said you already passed the code test for novice and general so sit down and get started. After that one, he smiled and said when are you coming back for an advanced exam. I said that I would have to wait for a while.

Live in my motor home full time and travel where I want to go on the East coast of the US, and, yes my ham radio is with me. I have two sons in Virginia, one son in Utah. Grandson calls me Dah Dah so I know he is learning CW.

How many of you can remember if your license was signed by Mary Lee Morris and was about the size of two business cards?

C.E. "BUCK" SHELL de W4AXH OOTC # 3190 buck@kerlake.com

**LETTER FROM RUSSELL W. YOUNG, JR., WA2VQV, #3328**

Spent 3 years as a USAF Radio (Morse) Intercept Operator in Germany 1955-58. 20 WPM required to graduate Radio School at Keesler AFB, but had passed 23 WPM and working on 25 WPM when graduated.

I was Amateur licensed in 1961 with Novice call sign WV2VQV and nine weeks later General WA2VQV. Received the Advanced class in 1971 after incentive licensing took away privileges. Passed Extra class in 1994 after job retirement and got radio active again.

Was inactive from 1971 (got married) until 1995 after retirement from major NYC utility where I was an Electrical Power Distribution Engineer in the Borough of Brooklyn. Moved from Staten Island, N.Y. to a NJ retirement community in 1995 and in April 1996 started award chasing with a vengeance, using mostly CW and after 2000 also PSK31. Awards include DXCC Challenge, DXCC Mixed, CW, RTTY, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, & 10 Meters, also, WAZ, WAC, WAS, WAE, WAP, WAA. Bought a mike for the OMNI VI Plus in October 2008 and currently working on Phone DXCC. Joined OOTC in 1995 and having a ball doing what I couldn't do in the 1960s working DX!

73, de Russ, WA2VQV wa2vqv@aol.com

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**LETTER FROM ROGER CRANFORD, K5ALU, #3870**

Subject: Remote HF for Novices

I operate almost exclusively Mobile because I live in a ground floor apartment. Although many have made do of their situation being apartment dwellers, my decision was one to remain "neighbor friendly" and continue my many, many years of operating mobile CW. But I always missed my activity in the evenings since my Sales Rep position only involves daytime and weekday operation from the Vehicle.

When Kenwood came out with the TS-480 series, and made it known it could be operated remotely it piqued my interest. Although the Kenwood TS-2000 (which I operate from /M) has the "Sky Command" feature, software was not readily available to remote the rig, plus it only runs 100 watts and I wanted something with a bit more punch. The 480 HX runs 200 watts out with a 40amp power supply.

I am part of the original group of guys who constructed the Super Station K5GO which is located on Gaither's Mountain about 2250 ft above average terrain, in extreme Northern Arkansas, 7 miles West of Harrison, Arkansas.

Some of you may have read the story in NCJ's recent issue, if not, you can go to [www.ncj.com](http://www.ncj.com) and find a few more details about the station. Permission was graciously granted by Stan K5GO to allow me to place the remote rig in one corner of the station, and hook the rig to a couple of the stations monster antennas. There are no permanent occupants at the station, as it was constructed as a multi-multi station, which we activate for major contests.

Let me first tell you I am not a computer guru, knowing just enough to get myself in serious trouble when it comes to computers, but I decided to try to make this project work entirely on my own in the beginning to see if it could be done by a novice. I found a TS-480 HX (200 Watt version) on Ebay, and won the bid at a great price, and the quest started in Mid April. The remote software is available free from the Kenwood web site, so I first downloaded this to get started. I suppose you could call this step #1 get the rig, and make the commitment to carry through with the project. I live about 75 miles north of the station, and a fairly easy 1-1/2 hour trip from my home.

I did ask several guys around the area which software was the best for remote access of computers, and although Windows XP has that capability, I found it very confusing to use. I wanted this to be duplicated by a novice like myself, and decided on PC Anywhere by the anti-virus company. After a visit to the local computer store I discovered the price was \$199.00 US, too much money in my opinion. But --- on Ebay I found a non-pirated copy for \$12.00, so it was ordered, received and attempted to be used locally between my home pc and a friend. It worked great, easy to use, easy to understand and cheap. The first thing you must do is to be able to remote control the host PC where your remote HF rig will be placed. But on a trip to K5GO I discovered a serious problem, and a major setback. There is no high speed internet access on Gaither's Mountain, and Stan had overcome that by using a "Wireless Gadget" between his home 7 miles down the mountain and K5GO, but in doing so had created a maze of different IP addresses which neither I or Stan could figure out. I am sure many of you out there would be able to address the problem, but here again, we are novices and wanted this to be easy.

A search on Yahoo yielded several "remote Access" providers, one, which offered a free service. It doesn't care what the IP address is and it works great. It is called [www.logmein.com](http://www.logmein.com) --- you can create your own free account on the host PC and log in from anywhere, no need for special software. So now we are back on track and experiments were made accessing the PC located at K5GO with success.

Now for the audio, another hurdle. Kenwood does not offer much in the way of detail on how to accomplish this other than using the KNS system – whatever that is. But to use the KNS you must have global IP addresses at both ends, which we didn't have. Stan and I wired plugs until we were confused and gave up for the day.

Now to ask for help, and I did a search for TS-480 remote and found Rich N5ZC who graciously offered his help and advice. He used a free program for audio called "skype" and can be found at [www.skype.com](http://www.skype.com) and emailed a copy.

Having left the radio at K5GO plugged into the microphone input of the sound card on the pc, it was ready to go. So I remotely accessed the PC, downloaded a copy of Skype, created an account, called it on my home pc, quickly went to K5GO's pc and answered the call and PRESTO there was the audio!

The TS-480 has a typical DB9 connector, which is the standard Com Port connection used on the older computers, but the PC at K5GO had multiple USB ports, but no COM card. I checked and found several used Com boards, but after some research I found those things to be difficult to configure for the NOVICE. Radio Shack had a USB to DB9 cable ready made for a good price so it was purchased along with a gender change connector (you will need one). So we were off to K5GO again for a test run. Everything worked great, Windows XP found the new device, I followed the instructions on the Kenwood software and within 20 minutes I had the PC controlling the TS-480.

My first QSO was with Bob, K5AY OOTC #3564 in Dallas on 40 meters and how exciting it was! Now I can control the entire rig and the audio is not bad after Stan did a few tweaks to the audio.

All of us at K5GO are hardened Morse operators, but we do intend to get it wired for SSB next week, which will be easy to do as the TS-480 has a Data output connection, the microphone input will be fed by the speaker output of the sound card on the pc.

We do not like the CW capability of the Kenwood software and have just obtained a copy of TRX-manager, and it is installed. A much better software program than the Kenwood for the CW operator, you can real time the keyboard and there is mention of hooking a paddle to the computer that would be a nice feature as I am not a keyboard guy. The TRX-Manager is much more complex and difficult to understand, comes with absolutely no instructions and it is apparent that a computer geek designed the software for computer geeks (pardon me for those who are computer literate in the gang – most of us aren't). I have had many, many QSO's

using the remote, and during a recent business trip I operated from my laptop in my motel room and that was exciting.

While this is not a new thing, it was exciting to me personally and the project is far from over. New software will evolve, we must protect the equipment as the rig is now hooked to a 40 meter 5 element Yagi at 130 feet, and the second antenna port (the 480 has two) is hooked to 5 over 5 on 20 meters. One antenna is on Europe and the other on Asia, and the top antenna is at 120 feet. So both are wonderful lightning attractors! We have installed a large UPS, which the computer is hooked to, our thought is that the computer is the very necessary link and to protect it at all costs. Since there is no one at the station to pull the power & antennas there is no protection, and as I write this there are a few thunderstorms approaching the area. So there is much work to be done, maybe a automatic turner for wire antenna's, web cams to keep a eye on things, remote means of switching stacks, and switching such antennas as our 4 square on 80 --- the list is endless and as I said this project will be a never ending toil, just like work on the K5GO station.

This also opens up the high tech side of Amateur Radio, a few think this could possibly get some additional interest from the younger generation?

(1) In my opinion you must have a rig capable of being controlled properly by your PC. After investigation there are actually several which can be controlled. (2) A high-speed Internet connection on both ends is a must. We experience a ½ second delay or less with ours. (3) A good speaker system on your home PC. (4) A secure location for your remote site.

Again write for any assistance I can give, your suggestions and comments are most welcome, as the project is still new we need your help in designing additional "gadgets" to enhance the remote station. Until then, listen for me and remember I am now – not always /M! RED K5ALU [k5alu@yahoo.com](mailto:k5alu@yahoo.com)

PS: November 2008. I have now gone through many different rigs and back to the Kenwood TS480HX that I have found to be truly the only fully remote-able rig out there. I purchased a Micro-Ham band decoder in Dayton which gives me the run of the K5GO antennas, as mentioned earlier the only disappointment for the 480 or any Kenwood is no band data output, with the Micro Ham I now have that capability, and am hooked to all the monster antennas.

But for many of you who don't have that location may I recommend the LDG-200 PC Auto Tuner that can be controlled by the N4PY software. Hook to Double Zepp with ladder line to the LDG and work all bands.

Do a search for W4MQ who has done a lot of research on remote stations for more information, or simply drop me a email at [k5alu@yahoo.com](mailto:k5alu@yahoo.com) for any assistance I can give you!

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**FROM DAVE HAYES, VE3JX, #4483**

There are so many different amateur radio organizations out there; at least one for every aspect of the hobby. I want to tell you about one of my favourites, based on longevity in radio. It is called: Old Old Timers Club (OOTC), and was originally formed in 1947.

In some ways, it is similar to QCWA; an organization whose prerequisite is 25 years in the hobby. Or, more correctly, first licensed 25 years ago. With OOTC, the figure is: 40 years. But, with OOTC, there is a twist.

The eligibility requirements are more broadly based: i.e. the "40 years ago" refers to that length of time in the past when the applicant operated 2-way radio communications in ANY sphere or service; be it amateur, commercial, or military. The prerequisites for full membership include being presently licensed as a ham. Associate membership is also available for those who are not currently licensed.

That would mean that, for example, if one was a radio op in the Canadian Navy, over 40 years ago, and was now a licensed ham, he would be eligible. It does not matter how long he has had his amateur privileges; the 40-year criteria was met with his Navy experience.

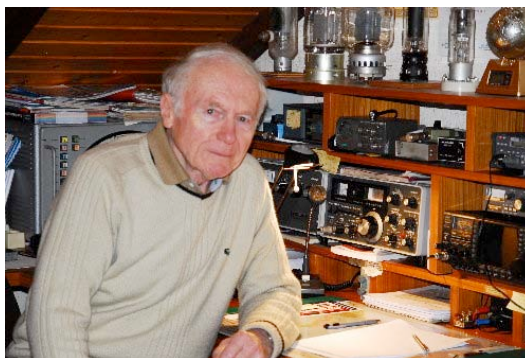
Okay, so what is so special about a club like this? It is the camaraderie of like experienced people. OOTC is a small affair, as international groups go. It does not have the "chapter" structure to the extent that QCWA has. It does have various nets and it sponsors an annual contest. As well, there is a very interesting quarterly newsletter called Spark-Gap Times.

Perhaps, this is the single most important feature of OOTC. In SGT you will find the personal experiences of members as they reminisce about when they first became interested in amateur radio, or when they were first involved with commercial/military radio operations. When the organization first got its start, it included many "spark" experienced operators. Their tales of shipboard or shore operation in the early days are tales of a bygone era, when the radio operator was a priceless, dedicated, highly-skilled professional; sometimes the only link between life and death.

-continued on page 39-



**President Troy Wideman  
W6HV Pg 4**



**Englmar Wenk DK1WE Pg 31**



WA3KOC 1969

**Dan Flanagan W3DF Pg 26**



WA3KOC 1969



**SK Don Doughty  
W6EEN #3387  
Pg 31-32**

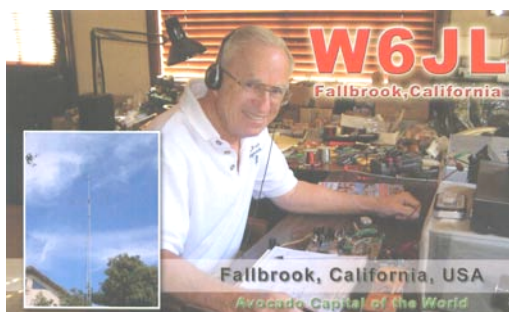


**Lyle Quinn W0US  
Pg 34-36**



**Gerd Dallmann DK6HD  
Pg 27**





QSL from Donald Huff, W6JL, #4024



Data punch cards for data entry & as QSL  
Olli Rissanen, HP1WW, #4425, see Pg 15



Were you licensed at least 25 years ago &  
licensed now? If so you should belong to The  
Quarter Century Wireless Association.  
PO BOX 3247 FRAMINGHAM MA 01705



FROM JOSHUA BREM, AE2L, #2799



BADGE  
Pg 46



Luke Sheridan W7XQ #4512 Pg 28-30

**NEW MEMBER DEXTER T. DEELEY "DEX", K4WWL, #4522**

I was born March 25, 1941, Rome, NY. WN2KQI-1969, N2XYS. My 1<sup>st</sup> two-way contact was a code QSO with W2QY (#0242 now SK) on 7/9/1969. I am a 40+ year member of the Antique Wireless Association (AWA) and was an officer for 30+ years. I am a member of QCWA and a past member of the Radio Club of America. I am an active amateur on AM and SSB on 80 & 40 meters. My vocation was accountant. Air Force Captain 1962-1967.

[deeleyd@bellsouth.net](mailto:deeleyd@bellsouth.net)

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**NEW MEMBER DAN FLANAGAN, W3DF, #4523**

Born June 4, 1949, Baltimore, MD. Spouse Jackie, 2 Children. WN3KOC-1968, WA3KOC, AA3KOC, WA1EXP, WA4ECY, GM5ASI. USN 1969-1973 CTR2.

I received my first ticket in June 1968. I developed an interest in electronics and radio at age 13 but did not get my first license until shortly after turning 19. I was a Novice for 6 months then upgraded to General in late 1968, then Advanced in early 1969. I have held the Extra ticket since July 1972. I studied electronics two years at Baltimore Junior College (1967-1969) then enlisted in the Navy for a four-year tour of duty (1969-1973) as a communications technician (CTR). After completing basic training and "A" school, I spent two years at RAF Edzell in Scotland with the Naval Security Group doing HF DF work and finished my duty in Newport RI after a short tour at Guantanamo Bay Cuba. Upon leaving the Navy I went back to college under the GI Bill and received my EE degree in 1979. I worked for the Navy as a civilian for 16 years as a electronics engineer and RF systems engineer at a Navy R&D lab near Washington D.C. When the Navy lab was closed I went to work for The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) working on their pulse Doppler radar system (NEXRAD) and hurricane surveillance aircraft. For the past 13 years I have worked at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD first on NOAA's polar orbiting weather satellites, and for the past 10 years on NOAA's geostationary weather satellites. I plan to work for several more years before I retire. [w3df@arri.net](mailto:w3df@arri.net) VISIT: [qsl.net/w3df](http://qsl.net/w3df) and click on "History of the original W3DF" The earlier W3DF (George E. Sterling 1AE, W1AE) was OOTCs 2<sup>nd</sup> President 1950-1952. Member #0051.



**NEW MEMBER GERD D. DALLMANN, DK6HD, #4524**

Born October 20, 1938 Neustellin. 1<sup>st</sup> wireless military 1960 - radioman in Federal Navy 1960-1968 Boat-Swain, DC8UD-1969.

1966-1976 Chairman of local radio club of the DARC, 1989-2003 Chairman of the local radio club of the DARC, 2003-2008 Vice-Chairman of the DARC district M Schleswig-Holstein.

[Dk6hd@t-online.de](mailto:Dk6hd@t-online.de)

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G. Paul Gerbracht, W3QPP #2580, has continuously served as the Director of the OOTC 3<sup>rd</sup> District for 15 years, since January 1, 1993! Shingles has plagued him for over 6 years, many times longer than other victims. It is worsening and Paul wants to withdraw as future area 3 incumbent. If you live in the state of Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania or District of Columbia consider offering to serve as OOTC District Director. Term is two years starting January 1 of odd years. Send e-mail to w6hv@verizon.net or President OOTC 230 Fremont St. Redlands CA 92373-5078

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**THE FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO, INC.,**

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an exempt organization under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

The organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., plans to administer forty-eight (48) scholarships for the academic year 2009 - 2010. The Foundation, composed of over seventy-five local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds two of these scholarships. The remaining forty-eight (48) are administered by the Foundation without cost to the various donors.

Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from \$5,000 to \$500 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Non-USA residents are eligible to apply for some of the scholarships. Clubs, especially those

in California, Delaware, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin (areas of preferred residence for some of the scholarships), are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, in their club newsletters, during training classes, on their nets and on their world wide web home pages.

If this notice is received timely, you may request additional information and an application form by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to March 30, 2009 from:

FAR Scholarships  
Post Office Box 831  
Riverdale, MD 20738

Applications are also available for download from the Foundation's web site:  
<http://www.farweb.org/>.

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**SILENT KEY L. DELERY (DeI) FRERET,  
W4KB, #2998**

**BORN 10/29/1911 SK 1/27/2009**

"TC" on the maritime and commercial circuits, was first licensed in the mid 1920s. His diary shows operation and maintenance of spark sets, and later the new tube type equipment while onboard merchant ships.

In the late 1930s TC (still a ham) started a career as a high-speed CW operator (later cw and phone) with the Airlines, then ARINC. He remained active as a member of the ARRL, QCWA, OOTC, and the International Association of Airline Hams. From his home in Lucedale, Mississippi Del held a weekly schedule with his sons W6KOZ in northern California and N4MHL in Little Rock. His grandson has a technician license KG6VFB. He will be missed!



Lawrence D. Freret  
Chief radio operator

**LETTER FROM LUKE E. SHERIDAN, W7XQ, #4512**

I was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania on April 2, 1947. At the age of fourteen I got the radio bug. I was a Boy Scout going for my Eagle Scout award and needed the radio merit badge. A friend of mine, K3ISH, from the same scout troop, and his father, were hams. His father was an electronics technician at the local airport.

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Both of them introduced me to the hobby and, not only did I get the radio merit badge, but with their help and encouragement, I studied the ARRL license manual and passed my novice test. My call was KN3PSR. During the same year, 1961, I was reading the August edition of QST and came across a letter in the correspondence section that caught my interest.

The letter was from Harry Blomquist, K6JSS and was captioned "QRP Club?" In the letter, Harry discussed the problems associated with QRM on the bands and invited anyone who was interested in joining with him to build a "QRP Communications Club" to write him. I got in touch with him and a couple of weeks later received a notice from Harry that I was number eleven in the new QRP club. That club is now known as QRP ARCI. My first rigs were a used Heathkit AR-3 receiver and a used Globe Scout transmitter. I got my technician license a short time later and had fun on six meters. My calls over the years have been: KN3PSR, K3PSR, N3EHR, NB3V, AB3AN, and W7XQ.

Two weeks after graduation, in June 1965, I joined the Army and was sent to Fort Knox for basic training. From there, I was trained as a Military Intelligence Coordinator at Fort Holabird, Maryland. After nearly two years of stateside service, I went to Vietnam and was assigned to S-2, 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (ABN) at Nha Trang as the S-2 Source Control Specialist (MOS 97D2P). I was involved in the fighting during the Communist TET Offensive in the spring of 1968. After being discharged from the Army in 1968, I returned as a civilian to Vietnam to work as a supervisor for Chase Manhattan Bank in Cho Lon (near Saigon), at their Military Banking Facility. I was in charge of nineteen employees. In 1970, I married one of my tellers - Brigid. We returned to the states and I got an Associate Degree at the local community college with the help of the GI Bill.

We lost our first child, Francis, at birth in 1971. I worked as an over-the-road bus driver with Martz Trailways for a few years, until my name came up on the list for Postal employment. Our second child, a son named Thomas, was born in 1976. In 1978, I earned my Private Pilot license.

I started with the Post Office in Wilkes-Barre as a casual Mail Handler. After awhile, I became a casual Letter Carrier. These were considered non-career

appointments. Finally, my name came up on the list to become a Substitute Rural (Delivery) Carrier. This wasn't a full time job, so when my name came up on the City Carrier list, I took that job. I was a Letter Carrier until 1986, when I became a Carrier Supervisor. In the next several years, I became Superintendent of Support Services (Human Resources and Finance) at the Wilkes-Barre Post Office, with 540 employees, and was appointed as acting Labor Relations Specialist until 1990.

I was then promoted to a regular Labor Relations Specialist job based in Philadelphia, covering three states at the regional level. I handled grievances at the higher level of the contractual grievance procedure, took part in local level negotiations, trained management personnel concerning labor relations and grievances, and was an advocate for the Postal Service at arbitration hearings, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission hearings, Merit Systems Protection Board hearings, and mediation proceedings. The designation was changed from regional to area in the early 1990's. While in Wilkes-Barre, I belonged to the Murgas ARC.

I retired from the Postal Service in 2003 and moved from Pennsylvania to Southern California to live with my son. In addition to OOTC #4512, I am a life member of the ARRL #0007051510 and of QCWA #19256. I belong to QRP ARCI #11, FISTS #14242, SKCC #4855, 10-10 #39559, MI QRP #292, GQRP #12590, NAQCC #2940, FPQRP #2075, AK QRP #775, EPA QRP #160, Polar Bear QRP #129, NEQRP #701, NJQRP #517, Little Thunder QRP #22, SPAR #1147, Orange County ARC member, ARRL VE & CE. I operate CW QRP on HF, and have an IC-T90A for VHF. As I write this, I am preparing to embark on another adventure. Thanks to a free tuition program at Cal State University, Fullerton (CA) for those over sixty years of age, I'm going to study Political Science for a Bachelor's degree, beginning with the Spring, 2009 semester. Since I have a two-year Associate in Science degree, I will have Junior-status at Cal State. [w7xq@arrl.net](mailto:w7xq@arrl.net)

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### **FROM MEMBERSHIP FILES**

WALTER P. GREENWOOD, SK-6/11/1998, W0IJA, #2460

"My first 1922 operation occurred when a buddy and I in our early teens took our Rienhartz-Schnell regenerative receivers, would beat KHJ, Los Angeles, then key the antenna, communicating a couple of miles that way. We didn't bother anyone, nearest other receiver was 25 miles!" "At that time a neighbor lady dropped in and I put headphones on her. She listened to KHJ for about 20 minutes with the records and canary birds --- finally took off the headset and said, - I don't know what it is but you can't make me believe it is coming from Los Angeles"

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**LETTER FROM ENGLMAR WENK, DK1WE, #3856**

I have been a member for several years, but missed sharing with OOTC-community about my ham-history. Well, here now are some facts:

I was born in Munich, Germany in 1931. In my early years I became interested in electricity and in radio. Inspired by an older friend, I built my first crystal set at the age of 8, and a small spark transmitter one year later. But because of the beginning war in Europe, all kinds of non-military radio communication was forbidden by the authorities; only some special "war-licenses" had been issued to selected amateurs.

After the war, at the age of 15, I joined the newly formed Bavarian Amateur Radio Club, built my first 0-V-2 receiver (with plug-in coils) from a mixture of parts, which were very scarce at that time. In 1949 I got my license, call DL3IC, built some transmitters with surplus army tubes, worked mostly CW and some AM. During my study time at the Munich University, amateur radio fell quite short because of lack of time and a suitable QTH.

I joined the Siemens Corporation in 1959 (electric motors plant); in 1965 the company sent me to the United States as engineering representative to Pittsburgh, PA with the former Westinghouse Corporation. As guest licenses to aliens were difficult to obtain, I did not pick up any ham-activities during those two years. When I returned, I got my present call DK1WE and started ham-radio again with a SX/HT40 set. In 1970 I left Siemens and joined the Dornier Aerospace Company in Friedrichshafen at Lake Constance.

When we moved into our own home, ham radio became again an important part in my part time activities, as it is still now after many years in this area. We like to travel and whenever possible, to take a ham radio set with me for portable operation. Around 15 years ago I started building small Morse keys and replicas of old camelbacks ([www.morsekey.com](http://www.morsekey.com)) and I hope that the Lord will grant a few more years to enjoy life. That's about it for today. Vy 73 to all the other fellows, and happy new year! Englmar Wenk DK1WE [inseco.wenk@t-online.de](mailto:inseco.wenk@t-online.de)

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**SILENT KEY DON DOUGHTY, W6EEN, #3387 2/4/1929-1/16/2009**

An appreciation by Dave Bell, W6AQ

Whenever I think of Don I always remember the old English phrase, "Hail fellow, well met" because Don was a bigger than life character, friendlier, more outgoing, and more welcoming than almost anybody I ever met. He had the biggest antenna farm, the most radios, and more generosity in his heart than almost anyone I know.



Don loved DXing and contesting and showered the Northern California DX Foundation with support. Not only that, he loved everything about ham radio and supported the ARRL so the hobby would be sure to expand and grow and survive. He even urged other hams to do likewise, including me. I got the contesting bug from Don and spent many happy hours in his huge, well engineered shack chasing points. But what those get-togethers were really about was camaraderie. Don loved being the host, whether for a few of us running a contest, or a huge gang from all over Southern California for a big barbecue. For several years, Don had his own hamfest, right out under the patio roof and around the pool. It wasn't unusual for 150 hams to show up. Don was always smiling.

Some folks thought that Phyllis Doughty had to put up with a lot, but to me, Phyllis always seemed to be a happy participant. One of Phyllis' good friends, Helen Luttringer, Ron, K6XC's wife, helped Phyllis in the kitchen, feeding the hungry hoard of testers who showed up with regularity to go for a clean sweep or a top ten finish. If Phyllis wasn't having a good time, she sure fooled me. Here's to you, Phyllis.

I first met Don at the International DX Convention in Visalia. I'd come into the bar of the Holiday Inn by myself and it was full of hams, as usual. A guy I'd seen but didn't know was sitting with a bunch of hams from the Northern California DX Foundation. He waved me over to an empty seat next to him. "Hi," he said, "I'm Don. What're you drinking? I told him a Saffire martini, very dry, up with a twist, and Don said, "I like that." A waitress appeared as if by magic and within a moment my drink was in front of me. I learned that night that Don's drink was a perfect Rob Roy, a concoction even more exotic than mine. I liked Don from that very first moment and I've liked him ever since. Don Doughty will live in my memory and will bring a smile to my lips for the rest of my days.

Thanks Don and 73.

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**FROM AKIN BRILL, K2ATB, #4175**

Reflections of a Blackshoe by V. Adm Harold Koenig, USN (Ret)

I like the Navy. I like standing on the bridge wing at sunrise with salt spray in my face and clean ocean winds whipping in from the four quarters of the globe – the ship beneath me feeling like a living thing as her engines drive her through the sea.

I like the sounds of the Navy - the piercing trill of the boatswains pipe, the syncopated clangor of the ship's bell on the quarterdeck, the harsh squawk of the 1MC and the strong language and laughter of sailors at work.



I like the vessels of the Navy - nervous darting destroyers, plodding fleet auxiliaries, sleek submarines and steady solid carriers. I like the proud sonorous names of Navy capital ships: Midway, Lexington, Saratoga, Coral Sea – memorials of great battles won.

I like the lean angular names of Navy 'tin-cans': Barney, Dahlgren, Mullinix, McCloy - mementos of heroes who went before us. I like the tempo of a Navy band blaring through the topside speakers as we pull away from the oiler after refueling at sea. I like liberty call and the spicy scent of a foreign port. I even like all hands working parties as my ship fills herself with the multitude of supplies both mundane and exotic which she needs to cut her ties to the land and carry out her mission anywhere on the globe where there is water to float her.

I like sailors, men from all parts of the land, farms of the Midwest, small towns of New England, from the cities, the mountains and the prairies, from all walks of life. I trust and depend on them as they trust and depend on me - for professional competence, for comradeship, for courage. In a word, they are "shipmates."

I like the surge of adventure in my heart when the word is passed "Now station the special sea and anchor detail - all hands to quarters for leaving port", and I like the infectious thrill of sighting home again, with the waving hands of welcome from family and friends waiting pier-side. The work is hard and dangerous, the going rough at times, the parting from loved ones painful, but the companionship of robust Navy laughter, the "all for one and one for all" philosophy of the sea is ever present.

I like the serenity of the sea after a day of hard ship's work, as flying fish flit across the wave tops and sunset gives way to night. I like the feel of the Navy in darkness - the masthead lights, the red and green navigation lights and stern light, the pulsating phosphorescence of radar repeaters - they cut through the dusk and join with the mirror of stars overhead. And I like drifting off to sleep lulled by the myriad noises large and small that tell me that my ship is alive and well, and that my shipmates on watch will keep me safe.

I like quiet mid-watches with the aroma of strong coffee - the lifeblood of the Navy – permeating everywhere. And I like hectic watches when the exacting minuet of haze-gray shapes racing at flank speed keeps all hands on a razor edge. Shipmates on watch will keep me safe. of alertness. I like the sudden electricity of "General quarters, general quarters, all hands man your battle stations", followed by the hurried clamor of running feet on ladders and the resounding thump of watertight doors as the ship transforms herself in a few brief seconds from a peaceful workplace to a weapon of war - ready for anything. And I like the sight of space-age

equipment manned by youngsters clad in dungarees and sound-powered phones that their grandfathers would still recognize.

I like the traditions of the Navy and the men and women who made them. I like the proud names of Navy heroes: Halsey, Nimitz, Perry, Farragut, John Paul Jones. A sailor can find much in the Navy: comrades-in-arms, pride in self and country, mastery of the seaman's trade. An adolescent can find adulthood. And some find nothing but a disappointing self. In years to come, when sailors are home from the sea, they will still remember with fondness and respect the ocean in all its moods - the impossible shimmering mirror calm and the storm-tossed green water surging over the bow.

And then there will come again a faint whiff of stack gas, a faint echo of engine and rudder orders, a vision of the bright bunting of signal flags snapping at the yardarm, a refrain of hearty laughter in the wardroom and chief's quarters and messdecks. Gone ashore for good they will grow wistful about their Navy days, when the seas belonged to them and a new port of call was ever over the horizon.

Remembering this, they will stand taller and say:

"I WAS A SAILOR ONCE. I WAS PART OF THE NAVY & THE NAVY WILL  
ALWAYS BE PART OF ME."

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**LOVE FOR HOBBY SPANS OVER 70 YEARS. LYLE B. QUINN, W0US, #3286**

Reprinted with permission. From the Dec. 10, 2008 issue of Fairbury Nebraska Journal News. By Kim Johnson:

Lyle Quinn of Fairbury, Nebraska, has a love for his ham radio that dates from 1935, over 70 years. The Army called on civilians to assist in communications. Lyle returned the call and made his way to Washington D.C. Those employed were not considered Army personnel but Civil Service Employees. "I had just graduated from Doane College and it sounded pretty good to me," he said. "Because I knew sooner or later I'd have to get involved, you know, the draft was starting." About one month later Lyle was in Washington D.C. working in the Munitions Building. When construction of the Pentagon was completed, his department moved there. The Munitions Building was demolished in 1970. On the afternoon of Dec. 7, 1941, Quinn and a friend were listening to a football game on the radio. Later that evening they received word that Japan had bombed Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. The two decided they would walk to the White House and watch the "notables" come and go. "We got in on the excitement a little bit," Quinn said. It was now time for Quinn to put his coding and copying skills to the test.

The Munitions Building served as a clearing-house for all messages handled within the military system of communications. The US was divided into core areas with a headquarters in each area. Each area had their-own message handling system. If one core area wanted to send a message to another core area, the message would have to be sent through Washington D.C. before being sent on. "That's what we handled," Quinn said. "There were anywhere from 7 to 13,000 messages a day being handled by hand." Not only did the Munitions Building have direct contact with the core areas, but also Honolulu, HI and San Juan, PR.

"There was a lot of secret stuff handled in five letter code groups. We would copy the whole message with no idea what it was about. We just knew where they came from and where they were going." The messages went to another room to be decoded. "I had to laugh one time. I was walking home with a guy one morning after we worked all night and he said he was sick and tired of decoding messages all night and getting out and reading them in the morning paper," Quinn chuckled.

The job in Washington D.C. ended when teletypes were introduced. "They brought in the teletypes and the girls to run them. The handwriting was on the wall, we weren't going to be needed very much longer." Quinn decided to join the United States Signal Corps, the communications division of the Army. The Corps was responsible for providing and managing communications and information for the command and control of the armed forces. In the summer of 1942, Quinn attended a "special radio school" in Milford, Neb. "Milford was taken over or leased to the Army during World War II. They trained people in basic radio." When his training was finished there, Quinn went to Rolla, Mo., for Radar training. Then it was off to Miami Beach, Fla., for basic training. The government had 'moved in' to the hotels and Quinn said, "We were privileged to sleep on Army cots in fancy hotels."

Basic training complete, he was assigned to "a kind of strange new thing" the US Army Air Forces 6th ARUF or Aircraft Repair Unit, Floating. Soon he was aboard the USS Brigadier General Alfred J. Lyon, a Liberty ship, bound for the Philippines.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt referred to this type of ship as "a dreadful looking object" that would bring liberty to Europe, hence the name Liberty ship. "The Army had six that were remodeled for an outfit like ours," Quinn said.

The USS Brigadier General Alfred J. Lyon with its crew aboard crossed the Pacific ocean. The Liberty ships were built to hold a large amount of weight, the remodeled ship rode high above the water. "And going across the Pacific some of the storms rolled the ship over quite a way," Quinn said. The ship docked outside of Manila. If a plane needed repair, it could land on Manila to be fixed. "Our assignment was to repair radar equipment and that sort of stuff. The idea was to get repairs close that way. It was a little piece of the whole war plan." The ship was then sent to Palawan, an island province of the Philippines. The crew would spend about six months there before returning to Manila. What happened next rocked the world. The US dropped two atomic bombs on Japan, which led to their unconditional surrender on Aug. 15, 1945. The USS Brigadier General Alfred J. Lyon then left Manila for Tokyo and Yokohama. While in Japan, Quinn and a crewmate would walk the salvage yards looking for parts to build a high power radio. With the war over, one band of frequency was opened in the US. Quinn and his mates would use the salvaged radio to send messages to the mainland. "We put a little antenna on the ship," he said. "It wasn't exactly legal but at that point we didn't much care. In fact, our commanding officer sent a message."

Quinn returned home March 1946 to work in the family business. By mid 1980s, owned the Fairbury Coca Cola Bottling Company and eventually owned the Fairbury Budweiser distributor Co. Quinn retired, sold the company to his son Mike. Amateur radio lived on. A 1948 QST article shows Quinn receiving a Public Service Award for work during the 1947 Texas-Oklahoma tornado. The blizzard of '49 marked yet another significant event for Quinn. The Rock Island Railroad had two trains stalled in Kansas because of the blizzard. The district manager called on Quinn to provide communications.

When the Korean War began, Quinn again provided communications, this time from home. He would relay messages to a station in Guam, which in turn would send the messages to a station in Korea and visa versa. The messages numbered between 50 to 100 every day for people all over the country. Quinn also hooked up a phone patch so those stationed in Guam could talk to family.

*NOTE: While Quinn attended Doane College, he would come home to Fairbury on the weekends. He doesn't remember the exact year, but around 1937 or '38 he handled messages for the Bird expedition at the South Pole. Quinn was married in 1957. In 2007 his wife Irene, passed away. Quinn has four children.*

**PAGE 37 VOL. 46 NUMBER 2 SPARK-GAP TIMES APRIL 2009****Birthdays April-May-June for active members with no "SK" report**

4/1 BONIFACE KT2O	4/15 WOMACK W6GG	4/30 SCHINNERER AB6TB
4/1 HARLEM W1EBI	4/16 MICHEL W9OP	4/30 WILSON K0JW
4/1 ROBINSON KC4PZO	4/17 FULTON W2SE	5/1 BROGA W9QS
4/2 BENTON W2WSE	4/17 HYMAN W2CSS	5/1 CHEEVER W5IG
4/2 DOUGLAS K4YSF	4/17 HYMAN W1IZQ	5/1 DITMER W0IZV
4/2 NEAL N5AF	4/17 KAPLAN W1AEL	5/1 DUNN N1BCL
4/3 MC COY AA0SH	4/17 KORNACKI W1UBM	5/1 JACKMAN W6GWJ
4/4 GERSHON W3GSI	4/18 HARVEY AA3QR	5/1 KERNS K2VNM
4/4 SIELKE W2AGN	4/18 SPAULDING JR W7JON	5/2 ANDERS W1PD
4/5 BIRCH W3JB	4/18 VALENTINE G0NQZ	5/2 BENNETT K4MR
4/5 BUDD W5BEN	4/19 PÖSTGES DL6VL	5/2 DE MADDALENA HB9QA
4/5 SCHENKL OE9SLH	4/19 SOULE W7MAL	5/2 WALTER JR KF5EH
4/6 CONNER JR AB5LF	4/19 TERREL 8CBE (Associate)	5/2 WILBUR W1CX
4/6 CUTCHIN JR W3ETT	4/20 BRANDON K5JYD	5/3 LAMBERT JR K1ZOK
4/7 PROPST K4PTU	4/20 BRUNKE (Associate)	5/3 PRATT W9ZC
4/8 GOLDEN K6LM	4/20 WATSON W1NV	5/4 COBB W6TEE
4/8 HOFFMAN W8MHH	4/20 YUTER W2NBT	5/4 EMBRY W4RTE
4/8 HOSHIKO W9CJW	4/21 ACKERMAN W3GYK	5/4 MALLEK K9WVM
4/8 MAZURE W9LOB	4/21 BARBER W1PRT	5/5 AZADIAN W1ODO
4/8 MUSSATT W9EBY	4/21 YERGER JR K6SS	5/5 SWANK K17PG
4/9 MAAS KT5X	4/22 GIFFORD WA3EXX	5/6 BASINGER N5NE
4/9 MINICHIELLO W1BC	4/22 RINALDI W1CNY	5/6 GOWDY W1RCC
4/9 MORTON W1NDH	4/22 SUMNER K1ZZ	5/6 MARTIN JR W4FOA
4/9 MÜLLER DL3QY	4/23 ANDERSEN W7DD	5/6 PRICE W4CZ
4/10 CRAWFIS W7KS	4/23 LEMANEK W8OWL	5/6 SCRIBNER KA1RFD
4/10 SIDES W4AUP	4/23 OHLSON K7UAL	5/6 WHICKER K4ITV
4/10 WOODS SR K2IHD	4/24 A T PINTO PY5IO	5/6 WHISNANT W5UGI
4/11 BECKER K9MM	4/24 GOINGS AA4P	5/7 CROCKER W3IF
4/11 HOLADA K9GLJ	4/24 HORENSTEIN K2PH	5/8 PAULET AA1NW
4/11 MASLIN N3EA	4/25 BUUS W2OD	5/8 RUBIN KT2L
4/11 MINKE III N6JM	4/25 MANN W1KX	5/8 YOUNGMAN NQ5T
4/11 SHELTON K5OK	4/25 PETERSON N7BXX	5/9 JOHNSON K1HGK
4/12 BEYT W5ZR	4/25 SMITH JR W4YE	5/9 SHANNON WA7BDK
4/12 DEVRIES W7UG	4/25 WAGGONER W0WLL	5/9 SMITH W4AGI
4/12 DUNHAM W1LCA	4/26 VANDIVER N9CAR	5/10 BROWN W7LGB
4/12 RANCOURT K1ANX	4/27 MAJOR VU2MD	5/11 AURAND DL9KJ
4/12 SPENCER K7MD	4/27 MERRILL W1QMK	5/11 FROEHLICH W9RZW
4/12 STINGER W8GFA	4/27 TABOR KB7QG	5/11 GREENE AA6LY
4/13 EVERETT W1ALE	4/28 BUDD W7RWB	5/11 HORN W7NSN
4/14 BEACH W2LN	4/28 HAYES VE3JX	5/11 LAMBERT WA1JSD
4/14 GIESE DL2RVD	4/28 NICHOLAS W7RBF	5/11 SHEINMAN W2BHK
4/14 MENEFEY AA7QJ	4/28 PENNEYS N9GG	5/12 BOSSMIN N5TI
4/14 PETERS K6HDE	4/29 CAMPBELL W5QNF	5/12 CALBICK W7GB
4/14 REMPE K9LJR	4/29 CHECK W8GC	5/12 D'ANGELO AB6E
4/15 DANNALS W2HD	4/29 COTE KD8BD	5/12 KIMBLE AE3Z
4/15 HOTCHKISS W7CNL	4/29 KNIGHT W4ZJY	5/12 NEEDLER W9HMR
4/15 JANATA DL7LX	4/29 REMINGTON W9MYZ	5/12 SCHERRER PY5GA
4/15 LILJEGREN W4GAL	4/29 SAGER WB4FDT	5/12 WRIGHT W8CA
4/15 MARSTALL K7SM	4/30 KINDT W9EFL	5/12 YANTIS W0TM
4/15 ROSS KA3AVB	4/30 KOENIG W6HVR	5/13 DYE W5LUE

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5/13 HENNEBERRY KN2X	5/25 GOODRICH W9HTK	6/9 LEVY W2LAP
5/13 RIISE K5AVT	5/25 WENDELBO KK6O	6/9 MEUTER DL6QZ
5/14 KEARMAN KR1S	5/26 HORLICK KZ3F	6/9 YODER W3YMB
5/15 GOLDMAN W6EHM	5/26 RITTER JR KR4R	6/9 ZAWISLAK W2IFB
5/15 GRIFFIN K6YR	5/26 WHITE K2KAD	6/10 DALLISON W4MLQ
5/15 HILLE DL1VU	5/27 GLORIOSO JR W5KSI	6/10 HELFRICK K2BLA
5/15 JOHNSON KE0KI	5/27 HERRERA XE1AX	6/10 HENDERSON K4GDC
5/15 LINDELL W5YCY	5/27 PARMER W3LCP	6/10 JOHNSON K4ROT
5/15 PITTS W1LZW	5/27 SAUGIER K6CD	6/10 SCHWERTER DJ4WS
5/15 ZACHER N9JZ	5/28 GROVES K3GG	6/10 YOUNG JR WA2VQV
5/16 FEENY W8KOX	5/28 NAKATSUI JA4ENN	6/11 HART W1RGX
5/16 SPEARS AF1E	5/28 PERSSON SM5TRT	6/11 PEARRE K5MMP
5/16 STUART VE7RG	5/29 FRIEDMAN K2VE	6/11 TERRAZAS KN6PR
5/16 TITTERINGTON W1EOF	5/29 PEIRCE W4KIX	6/11 ZELLER W8WM
5/17 RICICKI W2VRK	5/29 REMHOF W0CI	6/12 CARTMILL W1LHY
5/17 WARNECKE DJ8OT	5/29 WIDEMAN W6HV	6/12 GORDON W5GXH
5/18 CARROLL NU5C	5/30 BAHR W0VT	6/12 MARSH W4IWW
5/18 KIDDER W8CK	5/30 GROSSMAN K2CON	6/12 RITTER W0UCE
5/18 LINDEN WJ2A	5/30 LUKAS JR W1DOH	6/13 AUZIN N2JAV
5/18 RATAY K2DNF	5/31 TIPPETT W8RTN	6/13 BURBERG DJ2YE
5/18 VILMS K4OV	6/1 BIBEAU K1FPV	6/13 ELLIS W8NO
5/19 PATTON W5GPJ	6/1 CARTY KD4ZWG	6/13 JOHNSON W3YOZ
5/19 YOUNG KZ1H	6/1 CHANDLER VK3LC	6/13 JONES W0NKN
5/20 DAVIS N3HWA	6/1 CUCHETTI K8JRE	6/13 KNOX N0JW
5/20 HUCKABY WB4GKI	6/1 MASON K2JQB	6/13 LIPMAN K6ISN
5/20 JONES W5OU	6/1 STEELE N8HGL	6/13 LONG W3ONE
5/20 LOWRY KJ6YK	6/2 BRIGHAM W3TFA	6/13 WENK DK1WE
5/20 PRENTICE WA2MZF	6/2 ISAACSON K0HQW	6/14 GOOD JR K4BG
5/20 SCHATZ W1JGS	6/2 MANDRELL W9NX	6/14 JACKSON AE5K
5/20 SILVERN K6RXU	6/3 CRAYCRAFT K8NUJ	6/14 RICHARDS K4JWR
5/20 WAGNER W8AHB	6/3 ESSEX W6TJO	6/15 SANTANGELO N1JS
5/21 BUNCH W6BTP	6/3 KREAMER W1GAY	6/15 SCHREIBER K9ZZS
5/21 FIRST KF2JJ	6/3 LANTZ K6CJM	6/16 BREHM AE2L
5/21 GILDEA W1ZFI	6/4 AUG W3DEF	6/16 BURNETTE W7UNE
5/21 HELLMAN W2OEQ	6/4 BOURNE W6HK	6/16 CHURCH W0KXP
5/21 JORDAN KJ4HQ	6/4 DEFIO K3AXB	6/16 PICHULO W1IRH
5/21 LENZ KW4RL	6/4 FLANAGAN W3DF	6/16 RICHTER W4PHL
5/21 SCHOLZ DM3FZN	6/4 PENHALLEGON W4STX	6/17 DINMAN K1BI
5/21 WATKINS JR W4KL	6/4 RAND W3EH	6/17 HURZELER N6TKL
5/22 GRAHAM KD8PI	6/5 FEHR K0WPK	6/17 KLAUITTER W9VZR
5/22 HAMLET W2QBR	6/5 MORIN W1ZPK	6/17 MAERZ DL1MEB
5/22 KROLL K8LJG	6/6 MC CARTHY K4OP	6/17 SPRAGUE W1UVJ
5/22 ROBERTSON WK7A	6/6 MORGAN KB5LKG	6/18 BARRETT K3CKT
5/22 SHAW W2HYN	6/6 WILSON NI0I	6/18 GIBBEMEYER K1CW
5/22 WEISSMAN W1CKT	6/7 CAMPBELL W2ND	6/18 SIMMONS W6MI
5/23 BOSSELMAN W1DO	6/7 FIELD N6FY	6/18 STAHLEY K8AUH
5/24 BARTEL W3RCB	6/8 ALMROTH SM5FH	6/18 ZIELINSKI K0PV
5/24 BIEBER W2UGZ	6/8 ARNAUTOFF W6LUE	6/19 CHAET W1RGH
5/24 VEYSEY KF9KP	6/8 BEUCHE DL6AB	6/19 LOVE W8KUG
5/25 ELDRIDGE W1ZS	6/8 KRESGE JR W4NXE	6/19 MESTRE K4KB
5/25 FAIVER W8HNI	6/8 MINCHEN AG5G	6/20 MARTIN KB7RFE
	6/9 BROWN WA2TWS	

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6/20 PANASUK WB2CEB	6/23 GRANTHAM WA6NLG	6/26 MORIMURA JA1LKJ
6/20 REID KH7M	6/23 SCHULTZ JR W13U	6/26 WILLMOT K4TF
6/20 WAMBSGANS KB7VUH	6/23 SEATON W1FSM	6/27 JACKSON K6JH
6/20 WHITLOCK SR KA3QNO	6/23 VINOCUR W2HLD	6/27 JANKOWSKI W5KTX
6/21 BAUER K5RB	6/24 COLISTER K8CWQ	6/27 SCHMID K2LL
6/21 BOYDEN JR K1LWI	6/24 FLANAGAN W5GK	6/28 BAREFOOT W3UQJ
6/21 GENZARDI SR W2GRA	6/24 SKAGERBERG N6AVC	6/28 CALHOON SR W3CA
6/21 MOORE KD4EZF	6/24 SMITH W0TAO	6/28 OWEN W4VS
6/22 CUMMINGS W6RBB	6/24 ZUROMSKI W1HI	6/28 RAUCH W4VZ
6/22 GOGGIO W4OGG	6/25 HOPPER JR AB6CF	6/28 TURNER K6RHA
6/22 LESLIE N7XFD	6/25 KOKAJI JA3KWJ	6/28 VARNER AE6N
6/23 BARDFIELD W1UQ	6/25 REEVES AA0AE	6/28 WESTNEAT JR W1AM
6/23 GIESE W7UY	6/25 REYES WA9BMU	6/29 MC RAE W5EKD
	6/26 BRECKEN W1FRC	6/30 PAARMANN W0GNJ

**WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS OF OOTC. SEE PAGES 26-27**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>CALL</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>REFERRAL, SPONSOR, ELMER</b>
<b>Dexter T. Deeley</b>	<b>K4WWL</b>	<b>4522</b>	<b>Lincoln Cundall W2QY #0242 SK</b>
<b>Dan Flanagan</b>	<b>W3DF</b>	<b>4523</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Gerd D. Dallmann</b>	<b>DK6HD</b>	<b>4524</b>	<b>Günter Pesch DJ2XB</b>
<b>Jeffrey J. Beals</b>	<b>WA4AW</b>	<b>4525</b>	<b>Hugh Connally AG4HC #4360</b>
<b>(Bio for Jeff will be in July issue)</b>			

--Dave Hayes VE3JX continued from page 23--

The "movers and shakers" of the radio world all grow older with time, as with the rest of us. Thus, OOTC membership over the years has included such individuals as: Dr. Lee De Forest #0005, Edwin H. Armstrong #0522, David Sarnoff #0186, "Spark Op" Harold Beverage #2312, to name a few past Associate members.

Canadian amateurs that are/have been members include: Croft Taylor VE3CT #3339, Fred Hammond VE3HC-sk #1720, "Spark Op" Fred Swart VE3JE-sk #0060, "Spark Op" John Downer VE3TL-sk #0108, and many others. However, a member is not dropped from the roster if he does not continue dues payment. He may not continue to receive the "paper" Spark-Gap Times, but he would not be deleted. Why? Perhaps, it is in recognition of the hard times that some retirees experience in their so-called "Golden Years". For some, these years are without the "gold". Thus, OOTC can be called a very KIND, gentle organization.

If you are interested in OOTC, or want more information, they have a website at: [www.ootc.us](http://www.ootc.us). We would be glad to have you. Dave Hayes #4483

**THIS IS THE FIRST "THE RULES SAY" FOR OOTC**

Number 1 by John B. Johnston, W3BE, #3945

**TRANSMIT OLD HAM ADS?**

**Q.** I know it's against the rules to use my ham station for advertising commercial products, but I'm a slow-scan TV buff and would like to scan in some old ads out of ham magazines companies are long defunct. If I send these on SSTV, do I have a problem?

**A.** Copyright issues aside, there is no FCC rule that says an amateur station cannot transmit SSTV of ads from defunct companies, *per se*.

**W3BE-O-GRAM:** A useful addition to your station might be my BE Informed No. 3 SECTION 97.113 SMELL TEST. Your station should never transmit any communication unless "No" can be answered truthfully and completely to each and every one of eleven questions.

1. Is this communication specifically prohibited in Part 97 of the FCC rules?
2. Is this communication for hire?
3. Is this communication for direct material compensation?
4. Is this communication for indirect material compensation?
5. Is this communication for paid material compensation?
6. Is this communication for promised material compensation?
7. Does the station licensee have a pecuniary interest in this communication?
8. Does the control operator have a pecuniary interest in this communication?
9. Is this communication on behalf of the station licensee's employer?
10. Is this communication on behalf of the control operator's employer?
11. Can this communication be reasonably furnished alternatively through another radio service?

**Q.** Thanks for sticking up for those of us who lost privileges when the Amateur Extra Class operator license came along. I passed my Class B in 1946 and two years later passed my Class A, the full-privilege license of that era. Later, I was Grandfathered to Advanced Class and lost privileges. How was that fair?

**A.** It was not in the least bit fair.

**W3BE-O-GRAM:** The taking of privileges away from those hams who had qualified for them was about as unfair as is the granting of privileges to hams who have not qualified for them.

**Q.** The repeater that our club used went off the air. No one seems to want to take on the job of restoring it. Can we use its output channel simplex until someone puts it back on the air? We would, of course, cease our temporary simplex use should it be reactivated.



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**A.** Yes, you can. Section 97.205(b) authorizes a repeater station to receive and transmit on certain bands. But, it does not limit those bands to just repeaters.

**W3BE-O-GRAM:** Your cooperative attitude is a credit to our amateur service. Keep up the good work.

**Q. Our Club officers have some very creative interpretations of the rules for third party operation. Please clarify just what third party communications is all about?**

**A.** It is hardly rocket science. See BE Informed No. 7 ALL ABOUT THIRD PARTY COMMUNICATIONS. It is a tutorial for instructors and others who want to really understand what third party communication is all about. It includes section on advanced studies for one-, two and third party communications.

**W3BE-O-GRAM:** Terms such as, "third party operation" and "third party operator," have no rightful place in our amateur service lexicon. They only serve to confuse the issue sufficiently to encourage those who fail to respect and appreciate the very qualification and licensing requisites that legitimize our radio service.

**Q. I know several people who have a Technician Class operator license that cannot even tell the difference between a capacitor and a resistor. They are amateur radio operators only because they have a ticket that says so. A real ham on the other hand is someone who not only has a ticket but also respects the culture and tradition of ham radio.**

**A.** Although Section 97.3(a)(1) defines an "amateur operator" as a person named in any amateur operator/primary license grant on the ULS consolidated licensee database to be the control operator of an amateur station, there is more to it, as you say. Section 97.3(a)(4) says that amateurs are duly authorized persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest.

**W3BE-O-GRAM:** Now, about that capacitor/resistor standard: Those things are much smaller and much, much harder to tell apart than they used to be.

**Q. What is the purpose of a repeater's three-minute timeout timer?**

**A.** It apparently provides remedial training for those with issues in communicating in concise transmissions.

**W3BE-O-GRAM:** Our repeater licensees may have decided that three minutes of listening to any one ham is long enough already.

**Q. Is a timer required?**

A. Other than possibly qualifying for good amateur practice status, a repeater is not required to shut down after a three-minute transmission. It may be that some stations do so to achieve compliance should the remote control link fail. Section 97.213(b) says that an amateur station may be under tele-command where provisions are incorporated to limit transmission by the station to a period of no more than three minutes in the event of malfunction in the control link.

**W3BE-O-GRAM:** It is usually less stressful to blame the FCC than it is to confront those long-winded timer-outers directly.

**Q. It is likely that most repeaters with time-out timers are running under automatic control. For automatic control, is the control link, as outlined in Section 97.213, also required, because the control operator need not be at the control point - and the fail-safe provision specifically refers to a failure of the control link, not the repeater itself?**

A. A control link for an amateur station under automatic control is not a requirement in the FCC rules. It may, however, be a part of the devices and procedures the station licensee chooses to use for control of the station when it is transmitting so that compliance with the rules is achieved without the control operator being present at the control point, per Section 97.3(a)(6).

**Q. Section 97.5(a) says that the apparatus transmitting in our amateur service must be under the physical control of the station licensee. Then we have Section 97.3(a)(6) that defines automatic control as the use of devices and procedures for control of a station when it is transmitting so that compliance with the FCC Rules is achieved without the control operator being present at control point. These two rules seem to be in conflict. Assuming the station licensee and the control operator are one in the same person, how can the licensee have physical control of the station transmitting apparatus without being present at a control point?**

A. One way would be for the station licensee to lockdown the station apparatus such that no one else could have access to it.

**Q. What if someone were to gain unauthorized access to the secure area and take control of my station?**

A. Your station, obviously, was not in compliance with Section 97.3(a)(6). It says automatic control is the use of devices and procedures for control of a station when it is transmitting so that compliance with the FCC Rules is achieved without the control operator being present at a control point.

**W3BE-O-GRAM:** Read: if your setup of devices and procedures for automatic control doesn't result in the control operator's job being performed properly, you shouldn't be relying on it.

Q. I am a volunteer in the Amateur Auxiliary and I have found much misunderstanding about our work of ham helping ham. Could you please help spread the real information on this useful program?

A. It does seem to be a very low profile operation. The AA system came into being over 20 years ago. In addition to our VEC system, the 1983 Public Law 97-259 authorized the FCC to accept the use of amateur operators to monitor our bands for rules violations.

See my BE Informed No. 26 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION AND THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC. WITH RESPECT TO AMATEUR VOLUNTEERS.

**W3BE-O-GRAM:** The FCC Enforcement Bureau will accept complaints and information from any source.

Q. Can I append the indicator /E to my call sign?

A. You can append one or more indicators to your call sign when making the station identification announcement required by section 97.119. Each indicator must be separated from the call sign by the slant mark (/) or by any suitable word that denotes the slant mark. It may be appended before, after, or both before and after, the call sign. No self-assigned indicator may conflict with any other indicator specified by the FCC Rules or with any prefix assigned to another country. There are several prefix lookup links for you to consult. See my BE Informed No. 14 ABOUT THAT STATION IDENTIFICATION. It includes recommendations for appended self-assigned indicators.

Q. I admit that I don't know what the rules say, but I just overheard an outrageous violation. Two hams were saying terrible things about some of our political candidates. What can I do to stop such an outrage?

A. There is no prohibition in the rules specifically against transmitting political discussion or commentary.

**W3BE-O-GRAM:** You got one thing right: your comment about not knowing what the rules say. Could it be that you belong to a different political party?

**Read the rules - Heed the rules at** <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/ecfr/>. Click on [Title 47], then on [Part 97]. Also visit <http://wireless.fcc.gov/> and click on [amateur]. **Enforcement reports are at** <http://www.fcc.gov/eb/AmateurActions/welcome.html>. **Report violations to** <mailto:fccham@fcc.gov>. Have a question about the amateur service rules? Visit <http://w3be.home.att.net/>; and e-mail (only!) [john@johnston.net](mailto:john@johnston.net)

DISCLAIMER. REGARDING OOTC SILENT KEYS

The database of the Old Old Timers Club contains members that have passed away and were not reported. Life member K4CLA volunteered to research with the best data from various sources available to him for many years. Over 300 members we believe to be SK have been identified. Members may request a printed list of all OOTC Silent Keys, over 3050, sorted by name and call. If a member is NOT SK or the SK date is wrong, we need the information. Send request for lists with a self-addressed-stamped envelope to OOTC 3191 Darvany Dr., Dallas TX 75220-1611.

THESE MEMBERS HAVE BEEN REPORTED AS "SILENT KEY".

CALLS MAY HAVE BEEN REISSUED.

NAME DOB	# 1 <sup>ST</sup> WIRELESS	LAST CALL	SILENT KEY DATE SK REPORT FROM
Robert L. Watters B: 10/29/1919	3204 W9SAD-1940	W9SAD	SK: 12/17/2008 From Robert L Watters, Jr.
Arnold C. Perry B: 1/4/1913	1533 COMMERCIAL-1931	KL7BT W6QYL-1938	SK: 3/16/2001 QCWA Jrnl Winter P54
A. Brock Morgan B: Missing	1068 "BM"-1920 "3X"-1922	VE3OI From Dave VE3JX #4483	SK: 3/??/1989 QSTC(Canada)
Albert H. Ellis B: 11/5/1903	2817 ?-1920/23 VE3HX-1928	VE3VTC VE3JX minutes 5/1997 meeting	SK Between Fall1996-May1997 QCWA CH73
Howard E. Furnell B: 9/5/1910	2227 Military-1927 VE3OH-1935	VE3FKF	SK: 6/??/2000 From VE3JX-Obits in two newspapers
Hans H. K. Dreyer B: 2/20/1926	2702 Military-1944 DL1ZQ-1949	DL1ZQ	SK: 11/18/2008 From Heinrich Muller DL3QY
Oliver C. Doley B: 2/6/1918	2658 G3BRA-1946	G3BRA	SK: 11/30/2007 From Heinrich Muller DL3QY
Domenico N. Capello B:12/17/1920	2726 I1LXA-1946	I2LXA	SK: 6/18/2007 From Heinrich Muller DL3QY
Henry J. Lewandoski B: 4/28/1919	2560 W8VHI-1940	KD8WP	SK: 11/10/2008 From Daughter Joelle (Fuller)
Robert A. Curtis B: 10/8/1913	2005 W1ELI-1913	W1EXZ	SK: 9/30/2008 From Son Glenn Curtis
Frank Shellenbarger B: 5/26/1920	2437 Military-1939 WN2FHW-1976	KC2PS	SK: MISSING From QST JAN 2009
Allen R. Breiner B: 4/26/1920	1055 8CB-1925 W3ZWQ-1945	W3TI	SK: MISSING From QST JAN 2009
Charles W. Mathias B: 10/20/1915	2294 W8KGD-1933	W8KGD	SK: MISSING From QST JAN 2009
Gregory J. Schneider B: 3/19/1939	3708 WN9IEI-1954	W9IEI	SK: MISSING From QST JAN 2009
Robert C. Phillips B: 11/1/1919	3072 WN8PSY-1943	N4OZN	SK: 1/23/2009 From Mrs. Betty Phillips
William O. Anderson B: 6/12/1912	2849 W6UQG-1941	W5UBU	SK: 1/28/2009 From son, William R. Anderson

## PAGE 45 VOI. 46 NUMBER 2 ALL OOTC OFFICERS APRIL 2009

Notice: Call letters shown were calls they used, subject to reissue since then.

PRESIDENT		TREASURER	
1947-1949 IRVING VERMILYA	*W1ZE	2008- JOSEPH WEHNER	W8KNO
1950-1952 GEORGE STERLING	**W1AE	<b>EXECUTIVE SECRETARY</b>	
1953-1955 IRVING VERMILYA	*W1ZE	1947-1953 HUBERT INGALLS(founder)	W1NQ
1956-1958 WATSON GREENE	W1CPI	1954-1956 FRED MULLER (SK-in-office)	W4ZL
1959-1963 EARL CLINE SR	***W4PPZ	1956-1957 EARL CLINE SR	***W4PPZ
1964-1967 BERT OSBORNE	W4MF	1958 RICHARD KLEINBERGER	W2AEC
1968-1969 RAYMOND F GUY	W4AZ	1959-1964 EARL WILLIAMS	W2EG
1970-1976 ANDREW SHAFER	W8TE	1965-1967 EUNICE THOMPSON	*****W1MPP
1977-1978 FRED ELSE	W6FB/KH6CZ	1968 T. FRANK SMITH	W5VA
1979-1984 RAY MEYERS	W6MLZ	1969 BERT GAMBLE	W5ZC
1985-1986 LEWIS SIEK	K4NE	1970-1978 RAY MEYERS	W6MLZ
1987-1990 L. F. HEITHECKER	W5EJ	1979-1986 A. J. GIRONDA	W2JE
1991-1992 DUNCAN KREAMER	W1GAY	1987-1988 BERT AYERS	W6CL
1993 HARRY GARTSMAN	W6ATC	1989-1990 WESLEY RANGLES	W4COW
1994-2004 LELAND SMITH (SK-in-office)	W5KL	1991-1993 TED HEITHECKER (SK-in-office)	W5EJ
2005 DUNCAN KREAMER	W1GAY	1994-2008 BERT WELLS	W5JNK
2006- TROY WIDEMAN	W6HV	2008 BILL CARTER	W6AJ
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>		2009 BERT WELLS	W5JNK
1947-1952 ROLAND BOURNE	****W1ANA	* <b>W1ZE</b> Operator at old "CC", the Marconi station at South Wellfleet, Cape Cod, MA.	
1953-1958 CHARLES ELLSWORTH	*****W1TU	** <b>W1AE</b> FCC Commissioner during his term as OOTC President.	
1959-1961 LAWRENCE DUNN	W2CLA/W2LP	*** <b>W4PPZ</b> Originator of OOTC newsletter Blabbermouth, later renamed Spark-Gap Times.	
1962-1964 MERRILL BEAM	K2BX	**** <b>W1ANA</b> designed OOTC certificate still used today. He was top executive at Maxim Silencer Co. and close associate of Hiram Percy Maxim, the founder of ARRL.	
1965-1967 PERLEY B DUNN	W6WPF	***** <b>W1TU</b> One of the three wireless operators who handled all the traffic on the Titanic sinking while he was with the Canadian Marconi Company in Newfoundland. Also received a Presidential commendation for the handling of radio traffic on the NC-4 transatlantic flight. He sponsored Marconi's daughter as the Old Old Timers Club first honorary member.	
1968 FRED ELSE	W6FB/KH6CZ	***** <b>W1MPP</b> The first woman broadcaster in the United States, and no doubt the world.	
1969 EDWARD RASER	W2ZI		
Assistant BERT GAMBLE	W5ZC		
1970-1971 WILLIAM GOULD III	K2NP		
1972-1976 FRED ELSE	W6FB/KH6CZ		
1977-1979 GEORGE ELDRED	W9SG		
1980-1984 LEWIS SIEK	K4NE		
1985-1986 HOBART JOHNSON	W3AC		
1987-1990 DUNCAN KREAMER	W1GAY		
1991-2005 HARRISON MOORE	W2JQS		
2006- JOE SCHROEDER	W9JUV		
<b>TREASURER</b>			
1947-1852 HUBERT INGALLS	W1NQ		
1953-1958 EARL CLINE SR	***W4PPZ		
1959-1964 EARL WILLIAMS	W2EG		
1965-1966 EUNICE THOMPSON	W1MPP		
1967-1968 T. FRANK SMITH	W5VA		
1969 BERT GAMBLE	W5ZC		
1970-1976 RAY MEYERS	W6MLZ		
Assistant LEE MANN	K6KP		
1977-1978 RAY MEYERS	W6MLZ		
1979-1986 A. J. GIRONDA	W2JE		
1987-1991 BERT AYERS	W6CL		
1992-1993 WESLEY RANGLES	W4COW		
1993-2008 LEE KNIRKO	W9MOL		

**#0026 K2AE Henry Broughton** made radio contact across the stage, assistant to Nikola Tesla Chicago Worlds Fair, 1893.

**ORDER THE OOTC BADGE 1/16" X 2" X 3"**

White background and either BLACK or RED logo and lettering.  
Beveled edge gives either a black or red border. Send this order  
blank or a copy of it, with check, money order or U. S. currency to:

**OOTC INC**  
**Darvany Dr.**  
**Dallas, TX 75220-1611**

PUT MY MEMBER # UNDER THE CALL LETTERS YES\_\_\_\_NO\_\_\_\_  
(IF YOU DO NOT CHOOSE, THE MEMBER NUMBER WILL BE OMITTED)

CHOOSE RED OR BLACK LETTERING  
(If you do not choose, black lettering will be ordered)

WHITE WITH BLACK LETTERING\_\_\_\_\_

WHITE WITH RED LETTERING\_\_\_\_\_

BADGE WITH LOCKING SAFETY PIN BACK (\$8.50)\_\_\_\_\_

BADGE WITH PLASTIC POCKET CLIP (\$10.50)\_\_\_\_\_

BADGE WITH MAGNETIC BARS (\$11.00)\_\_\_\_\_  
(NO HOLES IN SHIRT OR BLOUSE)

BADGE WITH BOLO CLIP AND TIE (\$11.00)\_\_\_\_\_

CHOOSE TIE COLOR  
BLACK\_\_\_\_RED\_\_\_\_BLUE\_\_\_\_BROWN\_\_\_\_  
(If you do not choose, black tie will be ordered)

---

PRINT YOUR CALL LETTERS

---

PRINT HOW YOU WANT YOUR NAME TO APPEAR

---

PRINT WHAT YOU WANT HERE, CITY & STATE OR ?  
(If you want nothing here, say "nothing here")

**OLD OLD TIMERS CLUB INC.**

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP, MAIL TO OOTC INC.

3191 Darvany Dr., Dallas TX, 75220-1611

PH: 214-352-4743 E-mail: [ootc@ootc.us](mailto:ootc@ootc.us) Web site: [www.ootc.us](http://www.ootc.us)

**(PLEASE PRINT ALL ITEMS CLEARLY)**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Present call\_\_\_\_\_ Address\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail\_\_\_\_\_

1st 2-way HAM wireless(Year)\_\_\_\_\_ Nickname/Handle\_\_\_\_\_

My first amateur call was\_\_\_\_\_ Other calls\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If not HAM, first 2-way wireless Commercial Radio ( ) Military Radio ( )

CB ( ) Year\_\_\_\_\_ Describe it\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Birth\_\_\_\_\_ Birthplace\_\_\_\_\_

Last 4 digits your Social Security number helps identify Silent Key\_\_\_\_\_

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NEW MEMBER ENROLLMENT FEE \$22. (10Initiation+\$12.one year dues.) Yearly Dues \$12. All members of same family at same address for \$15/yr. Or elect \$10 initiation plus LIFETIME DUES for: Under age 75 \$175., 75 to 79 \$135., 80 to 84 \$110., 85 to 89 \$85., 90 to 94 \$50. IF YOU ARE 95 OR OVER, SEND APPLICATION AND NO MONEY. Funds must be acceptable at a U.S. Bank. If needed, will accept in 3 equal Installments.

**SEND \$12/yr RENEWAL DUES TO OOTC 3191 DARVANY DR. DALLAS TX 75220-1611**

Members may receive Spark-Gap Times by PDF E-MAIL attachment on request. Whether dues are paid or not, members remain on the membership rolls. Dues support the operation of the club. Post Office mailing is not always possible to all members not paying dues. This is a non-profit club. INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS NOTE: Please remit with (1) American Express money order, or (2) Check drawn on a U.S. Bank, if a branch of a U. S. bank accessible, or (3) if foreign bank, must add \$20 collection fee which is charged by our bank, or (4) U. S. Currency.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT. You are eligible If you had two-way wireless communication 40 (or more) years ago (eligible on January 1 of the 40th year). OOTC recognizes your first two-way communication whether through CB, amateur, commercial or military operation. Provide proof if possible. If never ham licensed but had eligible 2-way communication, you may join as an Associate Member. Get ham license later and the "A" (Associate) will be dropped after your member number.

OOTC wishes to have extended information about each member, activities and background. The information becomes a permanent and important part of your record as a member of OOTC, making it possible for us to write of your life work and experiences. We would appreciate a photograph, B&W or color. Send a biography and/or any story suitable for publication in Spark Gap Times on separate sheet(s) of paper. Unless you advise otherwise, filing this application gives us permission to publish your membership in Spark Gap Times.

First name of spouse\_\_\_\_\_CALL\_\_\_\_\_ # children\_\_\_\_

Military Branch\_\_\_\_\_service from\_\_\_\_\_

to\_\_\_\_\_, Rank\_\_\_\_\_I heard about OOTC from\_\_\_\_\_

Your Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Last 4 digits Social Security #\_\_\_\_\_(Helps confirm SK identification)